

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 03234 051754Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSM-03 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SP-02 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
MCT-01 L-03 H-01 PA-01 ICAE-00 PM-05 DODE-00  
SSO-00 HA-05 /083 W  
-----077417 051813Z /46

O R 051411Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8282  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USDAO ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 3234

ATHENS FOR COL ASHBY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, SY, LE  
SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE ASSAD-SARKIS MEETING

REF: A. STATE 141239, B. DAMASCUS 3207

1. CONCRETE INFORMATION ON RESULTS OF ASSAD-SARKIS MEETING  
IN LATAKIA CONTINUES TO BE SCARCE. LOCAL JOURNALIST TOLD  
US JUNE 4, CLAIMING GOOD AUTHORITY, THAT TWO PRESIDENTS  
HAD AGREED CHRISTIAN LEADERS IN SOUTH LEBANON, HADDAD AND  
SHIDIAC, WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE IMMEDIATELY INTEGRATED INTO  
LEBANESE ARMY. THEY FURTHER AGREED THAT BEST SOLUTION WOULD  
BE FOR HADDAD AND SHIDIAC TO BE BROUGHT TO SYRIA FOR A  
PERIOD OF "RETRAINING" SIMILAR TO THAT PROVIDED TO CAPTAIN  
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 03234 051754Z

KHATIB OF THE LEBANESE ARAB ARMY.

2. LOCAL PRESS IN ITS EDITORIALS AND ARTICLES CONTINUE  
TO PROVIDE UPBEAT INTERPRETATION TO PRESIDENTS' MEETING  
AND TO HINT AT MEASURES TO EXTEND LEBANESE CONTROL AND  
AUTHORITY INTO SOUTH LEBANON. SUCH MEASURES WOULD INCLUDE  
BOTH THE EXTENSION OF THE ARAB DETERRENT FORCES SOUTHWARD

FROM THEIR CURRENT POSITIONS TO UNSPECIFIED NEW LINES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF LEBANESE ARMED FORCES UNITS INTO THE SOUTH. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE INTENTION OF THESE ARTICLES IS TO LAY FOUNDATION AND PREPARE PUBLIC OPINION FOR SUCH MOVES FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. NO DETAILS, HOWEVER, ARE GIVEN.

3. COMMENT: AGREEMENT NOT TO INTEGRATE HADDAD AND SHIDIAC INTO LEBANESE ARMY IS A CLEAR SYRIAN DESIRE BUT WE ARE NOT SURE OF SARKIS' VIEWS. OBVIOUS UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ARE HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM IF THEY ARE NOT INTEGRATED AND HOW TO BRING THEM WITHIN REACH OF SYRIAN AUTHORITY. LOCAL JOURNALIST SEEMED CONFIDENT SYRIANS WOULD BE ABLE TO LAY HANDS ON BOTH, BUT IT STRIKES US THEY WILL PROVE AN ILLUSIVE QUARRY.  
PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETING REPORTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 141239, 78 DAMASCUS 3207  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RESULTS OF THE ASSAD-SARKIS MEETING  
**TAGS:** PEPR, SY, LE, (AL-ASSAD, HAIZ), (SARKIS, ILYAS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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